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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/939,527	08/24/2001	Yu-Sen Chen	D-2979	2493

33197 7590 03/31/2003

STOUT, UXA, BUYAN & MULLINS LLP
4 VENTURE, SUITE 300
IRVINE, CA 92618

EXAMINER

HAMLIN, DERRICK G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1751

DATE MAILED: 03/31/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/939,527

Applicant(s)

CHEN ET AL

Examiner

Derrick G. Hamlin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-43 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 33-43 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election with traverse of Claims 1-32 in Paper No. 9 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the search would not be a burden to the examiner because the groups are related in subject matter. This is not found persuasive because the searches will diverge and it would present a burden to the examiner.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The applicant claims a composition with more than one layer that is not required to be a solid. Although it may be possible to have liquid layers, it does not appear that a layers of liquid mixtures is the applicant's invention. The examiner believes that claim 14 should depend on claim 6.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Evaluations of level of ordinary skill in the art requires consideration of factors such as various prior art approaches employed, types of problems encountered in the

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art, rapidity with which innovations are made, sophistication of technology involved, educational background of those actively working in the field, commercial success, failure of others, and the inventor's educational level.

The "person having ordinary skill" in this art has the capability of understanding the scientific and engineering principles applicable to the claimed invention. The references of record in this case reasonably reflect this level of skill.

Claims 1-11, 13 and 15-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being patented by Mitchell et al. (5741433).

Mitchell discloses a controlled-release supplement coolant additive for use in diesel engine coolant systems comprising a core containing at least one supplemental coolant additive (SCA) active component and a polymeric coating material encapsulating said core. The controlled released supplement coolant additive slowly releases the SCA active components to a diesel engine coolant system, thereby delivering an effective concentration level of SCA active components over an extended period. (abstract) 1. The controlled release supplemental coolant additive comprises: a) a core containing a water-soluble composition comprising a supplemental coolant additive composition, wherein the supplemental coolant additive composition comprises at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal or ammonium nitrite and a mixture of (a) at least one alkali metal or ammonium molybdate and (b) at least one alkali metal or ammonium nitrite; and b) a water insoluble, water permeable, polymeric coating material encapsulating said core comprising terpolymers containing vinyl acetate, vinyl versatate, and alkyl(meth)acrylate monomer subunits,

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wherein said supplemental coolant additive composition further comprises at least one active ingredient selected from the group consisting of buffering components, cavitation liner pitting inhibitors, metal corrosion and hot surface corrosion inhibitors, defoaming agents, hot surface deposition and scale inhibitors, dispersant agents and mixtures thereof. (col. 12, lines 10-17) The supplemental coolant additive composition further comprises at least one other supplemental coolant additive selected from the group consisting of alkali metal or ammonium phosphates, alkali metal or ammonium borates, alkali metal or ammonium nitrates, alkali metal or ammonium silicates, alkali metal or ammonium salts of one or more neutralized dicarboxylic acids, tolyltriazole and a binder, wherein said binder is selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl pyrrolidone, sodium acrylate, sodium polyacrylate, carboxymethylcellulose, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, sodium hydroxypropylcellulose, corn starch, microcrystalline cellulose, propylene glycol, ethylene glycol, sodium silicate, potassium silicate, methacrylate/acrylate copolymers, sodium lignosulfonate and water. (col. 12, lines 23-42)

The reference is anticipatory.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 12 and 27-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitchell et al. (5741433) for the teaching above.

The reference does not specifically disclose that an oxidized polyethylene wax may be used. The method of the reference does not state use the term matrix nor does it describe a discrete unit.

The reference does generally teach a polymeric material. The reference further teaches polymers that have similar structures that would have similar properties and molecular weights. The supplemental polymeric binder of the reference is equivalent to the instantly claimed polymeric matrix. Any portion of the solid could be considered a discrete unit.

In view of the forgoing, the above claims have failed to be patently distinguishable over prior art.

The remaining references listed on form(s) 892 and (or) 1449 have been reviewed by the examiner and are considered to be cumulative to or less material than the prior art references relied upon in the rejection above.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Derrick G. Hamlin whose telephone number is (703) 305-0590. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday and alternating Fridays from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.


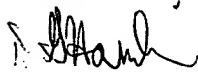
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If reasonable attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Yogendra Gupta, can be reached on (703) 308-4708. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9310.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

Derrick G. Hamlin

3/22/03



Mark Kopec
Primary Examiner